

# clarke college COURIER

Dec. 4, 2008

dubuque, iowa

Vol. LXXVV

Issue No. Five

## Students try out homelessness

lacey reynolds  
opinion editor

On Friday, Nov. 14, Clarke students bravely bundled up in their warmest clothes and gathered as many blankets as they could carry in hopes of staying warm in their cardboard boxes. Twelve students slept out on the Atrium lawn through the cold night to better understand what it is like to be homeless in the winter. The simulation "sleep out" was organized by the Clarke Social Work Club, Campus Ministry, Respect Life and the Art Club to raise awareness about homelessness.

Molly Williams, sophomore social work and psychology major, and Jessi Crain, junior physical education and sports management major, were two of the organizers of the simulation. Jessi said she participated in a similar homeless simulation in high school and thought it would be a good idea to bring the project to Clarke.

The Social Work Club was originally going to participate in the Dubuque-wide sleep out, but the group thought it would be better to do the simulation at Clarke so the project could hit closer to home with the students here.

Both Jessi and Molly believe the night went well overall. "We had more than expected attend," said Molly. "And with there being a basketball game that night, I think we got our point across and

brought awareness to everyone."

As part of the simulation, participating students were given a chance to weatherize cardboard box "homes." They were given garbage bags and newspaper to keep out weather elements for the night, and Clarke permitted the students to have a small fire pit.

Emmy Esser, senior athletic training and physical therapy major, chose to adorn the exterior of her box with the garbage bags to help protect it from the wind and rain. For the inside she crinkled up newspaper to insulate it better. "I tried to be practical and realistic," she said.

The cottage-like box home of Andy Bishop, sophomore secondary education major, was a favorite among the participants. "I was playing pool in the Bean Scene when I saw a rather large cardboard tube sitting next to the garbage can," Andy said. "I immediately thought, 'CHIMNEY' and decided to make a box cottage."

Despite the visual appeal of An-



photo by matt adams

Students gather around a fire during the homeless simulation. Students slept in cardboard boxes on the Atrium lawn.

dy's chimney, he eventually realized that there is a reason homeless people do not add chimneys to their boxes. After awhile Andy closed the chimney because it was causing a draft to enter his "home."

The weather played a significant role in the homeless simulation. "It was expected to snow so everyone was concerned about the wind and keeping the boxes from getting wet," Molly said. "We wanted to keep it as real as possible with a limited number of resources since

many homeless people have so much less than what we provided. I think the members got the feel of what it was like to worry about their box knowing they couldn't get another."

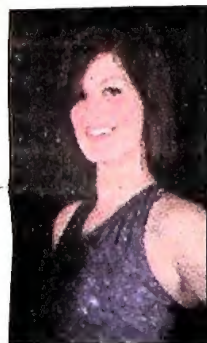
Andy said he thinks he better understands how cold it gets at night after this experience and that understanding that has helped him to see what a homeless person has to go through.

Continued on Page 2



Merry Christmas!

### campus life



Clarke dance team to compete in Hip Hop dance competition.

### arts etc.



Celebrate Christmas with a few unconventional films about the holiday season.

### weather



High 26°  
Low 21°

## International students brave the cold

phillip flores  
staff writer

We all know that winter here in Iowa is very bitter, right? Actually no, we do not all know. At Clarke we have 17 international students this semester coming from 10 different countries. So being new to this country, most of them really have no idea what to expect in the winter months ahead.

Freshman Josh Lister comes from a place where the sun is always shining and it never drops below 50 degrees. As we prepare for the cold, Lister who is from Australia, said this time of year it is between 100-120 degrees and humid where he lives. He also just purchased his first coat ever.

"I am used to wearing nothing but board shorts, a tee-shirt and sandals year round," said Josh "but now I have to go out wearing six or seven layers of clothing to keep warm going to the SAC."

On the other hand, George Reed and Peter Bayliss are both from London, England. They say temperatures drop between 25-40 degrees and it may snow two to three times a year, but it usually just rains. They both seemed to come to the conclusion that they were simply going to layer up or stay indoors this winter.

"I am looking forward to the snow but not the cold," said George. Peter agreed and said, "I cannot wait to go snowboarding and sledding."

Maria Vilar from Venezuela said she also wants to do winter activities like skiing, snowboarding and sledding this winter.

"It will be only the second time I have seen snow, but I already want summer to come back," said Maria.

Continued on Page 2

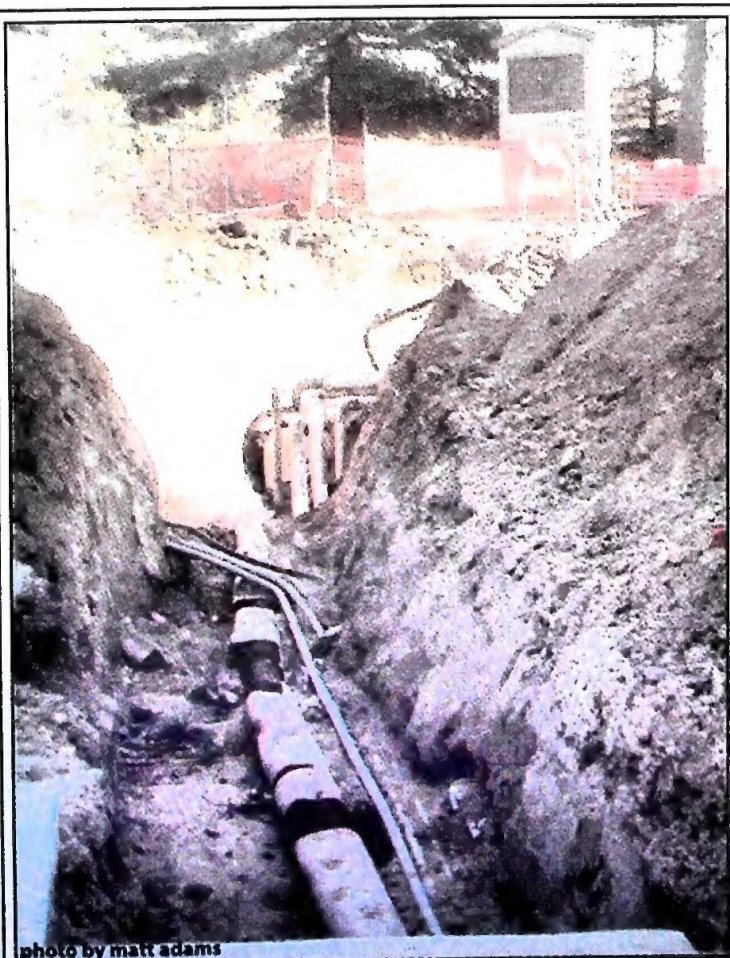


photo by matt adams

A steam pipe lies exposed on the front lawn of Eliza Kelly Hall. The cause of the problem is unknown and has been under investigation for several weeks.







Dec. 4, 2008

## Unconventional Christmas classics

aaron rhomberg  
sports editor

Every Christmas, movies that show the warm, loving tradition of the holidays are regularly televised. Then there are some movies that involve the season, but offer a view that is not encountered as often.

Films such as "A Christmas Story," "Miracle on 34th Street," "A Wonderful Life," and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" are shown throughout Christmas day. However, seeing the same movies year after year can become boring, so here are some options that can add more excitement to the day.

In "Die Hard," and "Die Hard 2," the hero cop John McClain tries to thwart terrorist plots of greed and destruction while trying to make it out safe so he can be with his family for Christmas. Another action movie that shows a darker side to the holidays is "Batman Returns." In this exciting action film, the Caped Crusader takes on the cunning villains Penguin and Catwoman who try to set up the Dark Knight in order to gain control of Gotham City. The film begins when the Penguin sends his army to terrorize the people of Gotham during their



annual lighting of the Christmas tree.

For those who want a good laugh, there are two titles that stand out. The first is "Gremlins." The 1984 hit about creatures wreaking havoc in a small town is full of dark humor over the course of the Christmas season. In 2003, a comedy involving Santa Claus became a cult success. "Bad Santa" stars Billy Bob Thornton, John Ritter and Bernie Mac. It is the story of a Santa who works for a mall during the holidays to gain access after closing time to rob the mall. Along the way,

he befriends a kid who is being bullied and gains a new outlook on life. While funny, the film does contain language and humor that may not be appropriate for everyone.

Then there are two Christmas movies that instead of bringing joy and happiness bring terror and death. "Silent Night Deadly Night" is a story about a boy who has a traumatic experience involving Santa. When he grows up, he witnesses an act that drives him insane and seeks out those in the town whom he deems as naughty. Upon its release, the film created controversy among parents for being too violent and portraying Santa as a murderer.

"Black Christmas" tells the tale of sorority sisters who are staying at their residence on Christmas during a snow storm. One-by-one they are being stalked by a serial killer in the house. The killer's identity in the original movie is never revealed.

While most people enjoy the many classics

that make Christmas wonderful, these alternative films offer a counter programming option and bring action, humor, and terror to a season that is regarded as peaceful and happy. They help bring a new level of excitement that most people can enjoy throughout the season.



## All I want for Christmas...

ben jacobson  
staff writer

Every Christmas we are forced to endure countless school and church choirs featuring precocious little tonally challenged children screeching out renditions of "All I want for Christmas is my Two Front Teeth." Parents love watching their spawn belch out this holiday classic and are more than willing to sacrifice musical competence for precious memories.

Unfortunately, the desire for teeth for the holidays is only applicable to young children and hillbillies. The rest of us are a bit more superficial in our Christmas desires.

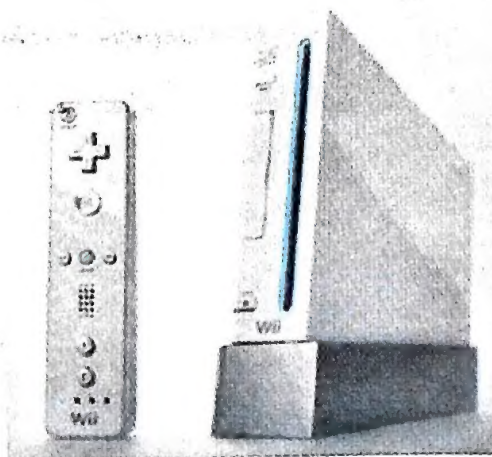
Through my extensive research, conducted over at least twenty minutes, I have determined that, aside from the essentials like clothing, toiletries, rat poison and the insincere desires for happiness and world peace, folks generally want electronics. TVs, video games and other gadgets that our grandparents could never have dreamed of when they were our age no matter how many hallucinogens they may have ingested, are what we kids want these days.

Video games have been the hot ticket item for young people for the past few years, and 2008 will be no different. With the recent release of blockbusters "Gears of War 2," "Fallout 3," "Fable 2," "Call of Duty 5" and many others, vicariously living out latent homicidal tendencies against soulless digital enemies is a cheap possibility. You have to admit, paying \$60 to single-handedly wipe out the Nazi scourge is more cost-effective than a drawn-out land war.

Thanks to Nintendo's Wii, video games are becoming more accessible to demographics that have not been specifically targeted in the past. Nintendo's follow up to the dimly received "Gamecube" uses innovative controls that, in addition to allowing previously unheard of levels of video game interaction, let the entire family jump around like overly caffeinated rabbits with Tourette's syndrome. There are few things more entertaining than watching Grandma and Grandpa square off in a round of Wii boxing. That's a broken hip just waiting to happen. More than two years after its launch, the Wii is still difficult to find in stores, particu-

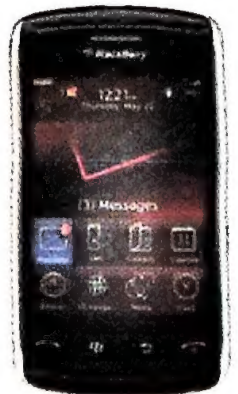
larly around the holidays.

Ray Bradbury, in "Fahrenheit 451," talked of walls in houses that functioned much like televisions, allowing passive individuals to lead a voyeuristic life, almost devoid of human interaction. Thanks to advances in technology, that glorious possibility is fast becoming reality. Huge plasma-screen TVs are becoming bigger, cheaper and more readily available. The average cost of a plasma TV is about \$2500. This price includes TVs from the 13-inch models all the way up to the divine 72-inch screens. Plus, with after-Thanksgiving sales still going, it is quite possible to pick up a 32-inch television for under \$400. There is really nothing quite as satisfying as parking yourself on the couch with a cold beverage on a Sunday night and watching nearly life-size football



Though the economy is quickly being destroyed, it is unlikely that

Christmas will be cancelled. Though we may have to settle for the 50-inch TV instead of the 72-inch TV, or the smaller box of rat poison instead of the family size box, our capitalist society will prevail.



### clarke college COURIER

Courtney Townsend  
Editor

Kim Brooks  
Editor

Matt Adams  
Photo Editor

Aaron Rhomberg  
Sports

Dave Tucker  
Arts Etc.

Heidi Rhinehart  
Campus Life

Lacey Reynolds  
Opinion

Matt Adams  
Production

Justin Curry  
Extras

Kristina Nesteby  
Photographer

#### Staff Writers

Ali Herbst, Emily Ludovissy, Phillip Flores,  
Kristina Nesteby, Pete Lister and Ben Jacobson

Advisor  
Diana Russo

The Courier is a student-produced newspaper for the Clarke community. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions for the faculty, staff or administration of the college. The Courier welcomes input from members of the Clarke Community. Please send comments to MS 1801, Clarke College. Letters must be signed and may be edited for content and length.



Dec. 4, 2008

# EXTRAS

## Media Watch



kristina nesteby  
staff writer

FORGETTING  
SARAH MARSHALL  
SHOCKED UP A 2008 ACADEMY AWARD



	What CD are you listening to right now?	What book is on your nightstand?	What is the last movie you saw?	What is your favorite TV show?
Steve Guida sophomore history and secondary education major	"All Hope Is Gone" by Slipknot	Textbooks	"Forgetting Sarah Marshall"	"How I Met Your Mother"
Oliver Kane senior computer science major	"Exploring The Tributaries" by Vibrasphere	"Echoes of Earth" by Sean Williams	"WALL-E"	"House M.D."
Spencer Tylin senior communication major	"Madeline" by Tickle Me Pink	"Wrigleyworld" by Kevin Kaduk	"Pineapple Express"	"South Park"

## On the Street

pete lister  
staff writer

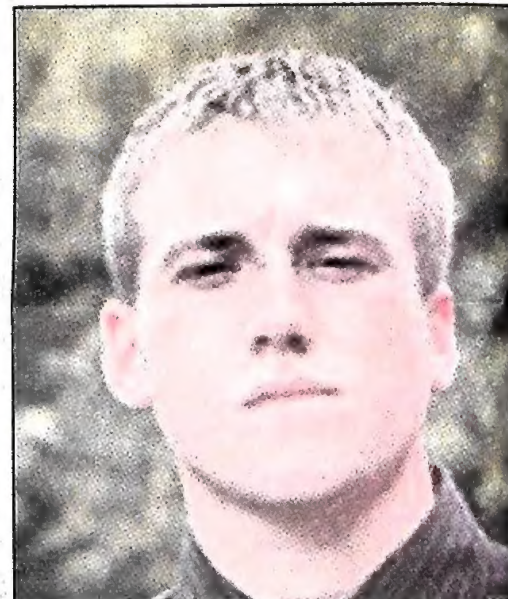
What's the worst Christmas gift you have received?



"There is no such thing as a bad Christmas gift."  
--Jason Kruse, senior business management major



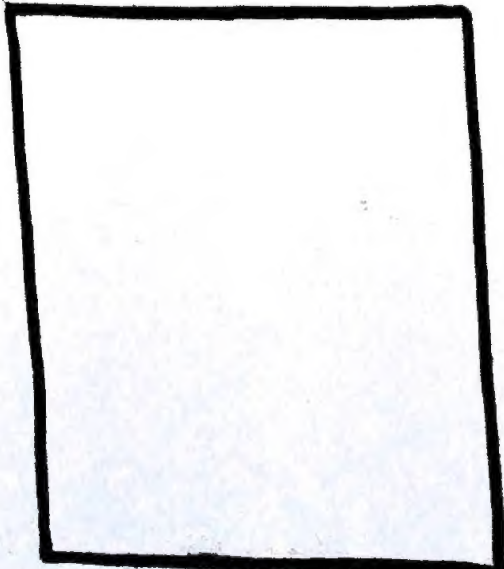
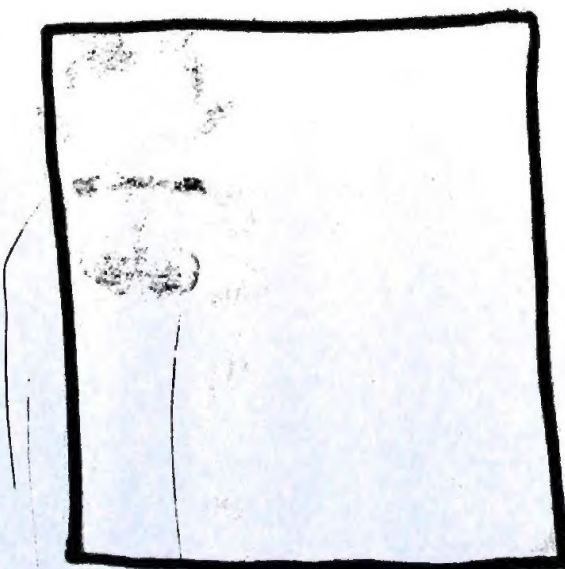
"One year as a Christmas gift my parents took me and my family to the Grand Canyon and we were snowed in for two days."  
--Mike Schermer, junior business administration major



"One year I got a travel checkers game because my mom thinks they're a lot of fun."  
--Dan Spain, senior kinesiology major

## An Incoherent Mess

dave tucker  
a & e editor



clarke courier

clark  
CO  
Feb. 5, 2009  
IBM  
ali he  
staff w  
The current  
economy  
multitude of  
job openings and j  
Dubuque resident  
has been eased. Al  
searching for a loc  
nounced January 15  
opening a new tec  
vice delivery center  
IBM, incorporated  
presenting an opp  
1,300 positions to be  
end of 2010.  
"IBM's decision  
a portion of its op  
Dubuque is a testar  
strength of our com  
surrounding commu  
Clarke President Joan  
"It speaks to what Du  
its core - a smaller ci  
opportunities."  
This all began last su  
a phone call of inqu  
ing types of buildings  
has to offer for busin  
executives made two  
to Dubuque in Octob  
ember. The process  
ing Dubuque was a  
and many people we  
Clarke  
butter  
elaine mil  
staff writ  
It's peanut butter  
jelly! Peanut butt  
bat! No, actually  
jelly, thanks to the cur  
butter products.  
The U.S. Food and  
(FDA) inspected the  
at a Peanut Corp. of A  
in Georgia finding S  
The company sold its  
food manufacturers fo  
cookies, crackers, cer  
ice cream.  
There have been m  
than 500 cases of Sal  
nella poisonings in  
mans and pets along  
6 deaths reported acc  
ing to www.NPR.org  
recalls of tainted  
butter products expan  
Clarke College's M  
rent food distributor,  
SCO foods, monitors  
notified immediately  
with any of our  
they will be  
he